Employment Opportunities for I.T. Professionals

2040. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about the number of I.T. professionals in the country;

(b) whether all these I.T. professionals have been suitably employed;

(c) whether countries like Germany, France, Austria and Norway have raised any demand for our I.T. professionals;

(d) if so, the extent of demand from each country and the action taken to meet these demands; and

(e) how far these countries have finally agreed to take our I.T. professionals?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) As per Interim Report of the Task Force on Human Resource Development (HRD), there were 3,40,000 software professionals employed in the country as on 31st March, 2000.

(c) to (e) As per NASSCOM Strategic Review 2001, countries like France, Germany, Italy, UK, Ireland have critical shortage of IT professionals. With a view to attract IT professionals from India, these countries have initiated relaxed immigration measures.

Electronic Software park in the States

†2041. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced any scheme for setting up of electronic software parks in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the States alongwith the locations for which assistance has been provided by Government for setting up such parks;

(c) whether any scheme has been accorded approval or is under

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.